



Mini-Thinking Pages Lesson Strategies

Learning Objectives: The student will understand the principles of the Constitution. Students will analyze primary sources documents, while using thinking strategies.

TEKS: 8.15D

Materials Needed: Copies of Mini-Thinking Pages for each student and access to the LRE website <https://texaslre.org/liam-learns/> to show the videos.

Teacher Background: The following lesson plan is designed to accompany the Liam Learns: 7 *Principles of the Constitution* video series.

Teaching Strategy: For each video in this series, we have provided a resource called a Mini-Thinking Page. Each page has some suggested processing strategies to enhance the learning of each of the 7 Principles of the Constitution. The page is also divided into two parts. The first part is guided learning, such as teacher directed or partner work with teacher guidance. The second part is for individual student practice or partner work practice. Teachers should give feedback when appropriate.

Republicanism

Part 1 - Teacher Guided: Ask students to complete a thinking process called Keyword Summary (*Adopted by Gilder Lehrman Teaching History Through Literature*). Students will individually read and select 4-5 keywords by underlining them in the excerpt and adding them to the box that says *Keywords*. These words should be words that help with summarizing the text. Allow students to share words with a partner to compare and come to a consensus. Teacher leads class discussion and provides feedback and vocabulary definitions if needed. With the same partner, pairs should write a summary together using the 4-5 keywords agreed upon, in the box labeled *Keyword Summary*. Individually, students will use the partner summary to write a separate summary in their own words, in the *In Your Own Words* box.

Part 2 - Student Practice: Students will work individually or with a partner to complete the multipart questions. These questions have Part A and B. Students should select their answer in both parts by circling or highlighting the correct answer. Teacher leads class discussion and gives feedback to students. Students can individually practice with the short answer response by giving a brief explanation in their own words that demonstrates their understanding of the content.

Suggested Answers:

- Part A: D
- Part B: A



Republicanism Mini thinking Page

Directions: as you read the excerpt below,

1. Select 4-5 keywords to create a summary sentence. Keywords are words that are familiar (use context clues) and help to understand the text.
2. Share your keywords with a partner, come to a consensus, and with your partner, write a summary using the 4-5 keywords.
3. Finally, write a separate summary in your own words.

President George Washington's Farewell Address

Friends and Citizens:

The period for a new election of a citizen to administer the executive government of the United States being not far distant, and the time actually arrived when your thoughts must be employed in designating the person who is to be clothed with that important trust, it appears to me proper, especially as it may conduce to a more distinct expression of the public voice, that I should now apprise you of the resolution I have formed, to decline being considered among the number of those out of whom a choice is to be made.

I beg you, at the same time, to do me the justice to be assured that this resolution has not been taken without a strict regard to all the considerations appertaining to the relation which binds a dutiful citizen to his country; and that in withdrawing the tender of service, which silence in my situation might imply, I am influenced by no diminution of zeal for your future interest, no deficiency of grateful respect for your past kindness, but am supported by a full conviction that the step is compatible with both.

The acceptance of, and continuance hitherto in, the office to which your suffrages have twice called me have been a uniform sacrifice of inclination to the opinion of duty and to a deference for what appeared to be your desire. I constantly hoped that it would have been much earlier in my power, consistently with motives which I was not at liberty to disregard, to return to that retirement from which I had been reluctantly drawn. The strength of my inclination to do this, previous to the last election, had even led to the preparation of an address to declare it to you; but mature reflection on the then perplexed and critical posture of our affairs with foreign nations, and the unanimous advice of persons entitled to my confidence, impelled me to abandon the idea.....

Key Words:

Keyword Summary:

In your own words:



Student Practice

Friends and Citizens:

The period for a new election of a citizen to administer the executive government of the United States being not far distant, and the time actually arrived when your thoughts must be employed in designating the person who is to be clothed with that important trust, it appears to me proper, especially as it may conduce to a more distinct expression of the public voice, that I should now apprise you of the resolution I have formed, to decline being considered among the number of those out of whom a choice is to be made.

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This question has TWO parts

Part A

Which statements do **NOT** describe the principle of Republicanism found in our U.S. Constitution from President Washington's Farewell Speech?

- A. "a new election of a citizen to administer the executive government of the United States"
- B. "your thoughts must be employed in designating the person who is to be clothed with that important trust";
- C. "the office to which your suffrages have twice called me have been a uniform sacrifice of inclination to the opinion of duty";
- D. "I am influenced by no diminution of zeal for your future interest, no deficiency of grateful respect for your past kindness..."

Part B

Using the excerpt above, choose the **BEST** answer to the question below.

How is President Washington setting precedence for others in his words and actions?

- A. President Washington only served 2 terms and then retired, which set a precedent for future presidents.
- B. President Washington added some extra words to the pledge to his office, which set a precedent for future presidents.
- C. President Washington created a personal cabinet to advise him on the day to day affairs of leading the nation, which set a precedent for future presidents.
- D. President Washington remained General of the Army, which set a precedent for future presidents.